

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

**Please insert the following new heading between the title of the invention and the heading "FIELD OF THE INVENTION":**

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

**Please amend the heading after paragraph [0001] and before paragraph [0002] as follows:**

**BACKGROUND OF ~~THE~~ INVENTION INFORMATION**

**Please amend paragraph [0054] as follows:**

A covering means 10 constituting a part of the shell member of the outboard motor 1 covers upper, side and lower portions of the engine 2. The covering means 10 consists of a cover structure having a first cover member comprised of a cap-shaped engine cover 11 oriented downward for covering an upper portion of the engine 2 above a vertically intermediate portion thereof, and a second cover member comprised of an undercover 20 for enclosing a lower portion of the engine 2, the pump body 3, the mounting case 4 and the oil case 5.

**Please amend paragraph [0055] as follows:**

The undercover 20, as shown in FIG. 3, consists of two cover portions, a left lower cover 21 and a right lower cover 31 as left and right cover members.

Please amend paragraph [0060] as follows:

The mounting case 4, oil case 5, extension case 13 and gear case 14 constitute a casing assembly or casing means for supporting the engine and for rotatably supporting and accommodating the drive shaft.